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SEG news release

Society of Exploration Geophysicists

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MONTHLY SEISMIC CREW COUNT March 12, 1991

(Month of February)

According to the Society of Exploration Geophysicists' latest report, the number of seismic land crews and marine vessels searching for oil and gas in the U.S. and U.S. waters increased during February. The land crew total increased by five to 97, and the marine crew total decreased by one, a net increase of four crews, for a total of 118 crews.

The February total (118) represents an increase of 4% over last month, a 2% decrease from February, 1990, a 14% decrease from February, 1989, a 40% decrease from February, 1988, a 22% decrease from February, 1987, a 60% decrease from February, 1986, and **a decrease of 71% from the same month in 1985.**

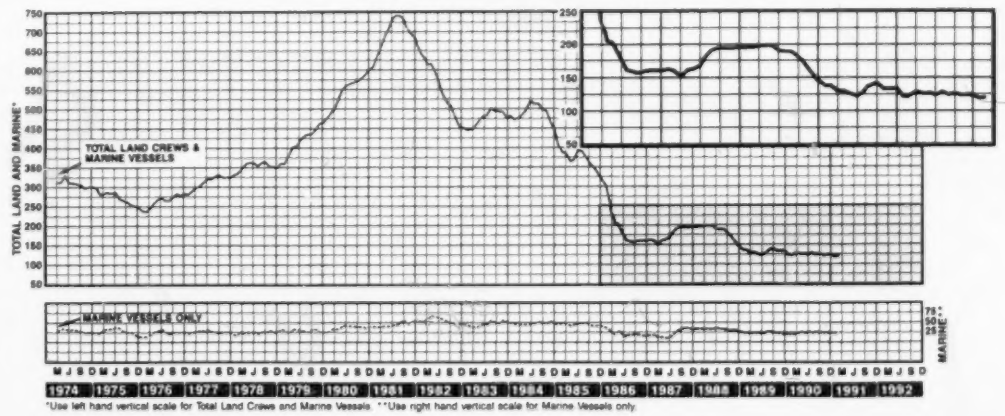
During February, two contractors were operating three of the 91 land crews and one of the eighteen marine vessels on a speculative basis.

TOTAL LAND & MARINE CREWS:	This Month 118	Last Month 114	Feb.'90 120	Feb.'89 138	Feb.'88 198	Feb'87 151	Feb.'86 295	Feb.'85 406

	LAND CREWS								MARINE VESSELS							
	This Mo.	Last Mo.	Feb. 1990	Feb. 1989	Feb. 1988	Feb. 1987	Feb. 1986	Feb. 1985	This Mo.	Last Mo.	Feb. 1990	Feb. 1989	Feb. 1988	Feb. 1987	Feb. 1986	Feb. 1985
34 Contr's:	91	85	91	102	155	119	226	326	18	19	18	20	26	16	34	38
5 Oil Co's:	6	7	9	13	13	13	30	34	3	3	2	3	4	3	5	7
1 Gov't:	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTALS	97	92	100	115	168	132	256	360	21	22	20	23	30	19	39	46

SEISMIC CREW COUNT

(The leading indicator of oil and gas exploration activity.)


TOTAL LAND AND MARINE*
TOTAL LAND CREWS & MARINE VESSELS
MARINE VESSELS ONLY
MARINE**
M J S D M J S D M J S D M J S D M J S D M J S D M J S D M J S D M J S D M J S D M J S D M J S D
1974 1975 1976 1977 1978 1979 1980 1981 1982 1983 1984 1985 1986 1987 1988 1989 1990 1991 1992

*Use left hand vertical scale for Total Land Crews and Marine Vessels. **Use right hand vertical scale for Marine Vessels only.

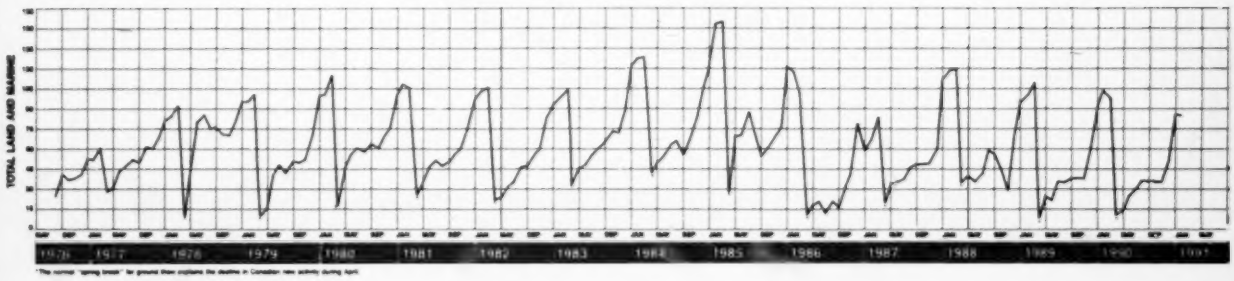
*Results of SEG's Seismic Crew Count of land and marine vessels engaged in exploration for oil and gas in the USA and USA waters, including Alaska, for the month indicated. These figures are compiled from data reported by oil companies operating company-owned seismic exploration crews and vessels and by contract seismic exploration companies. Special significance is attached to seismic crew activity since it is recognized as the leading indicator of all petroleum exploration activity.

CANADIAN SEISMIC CREW COUNT

February, 1991 (January figures in parentheses)

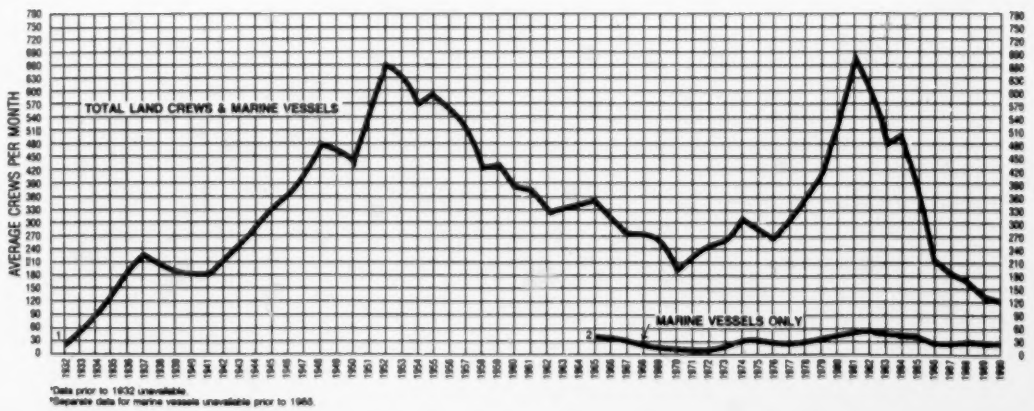
	Land Crews	Marine Crews
27 Contractors:	80 (83)	0 (0)
1 Oil Company:	1 (1)	0 (0)
Totals:	81 (84)	0 (0)

CANADIAN SEISMIC CREW COUNT
(The leading indicator of oil and gas exploration activity.)



SEG's monthly USA Seismic Crew survey was instigated in 1974 at the request of the United States' Federal Energy Administration. The report is currently submitted to the U.S. Department of Energy.

HISTORY OF SEISMIC EXPLORATION IN THE UNITED STATES
(Seismic crews searching for oil & gas.)



*Data prior to 1932 unavailable.
*Separate data for marine vessels unavailable prior to 1966.